Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

1.9
P696

LIBRARY
RECEIVED

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY,
OFFICE OF DRY LAND AGRICULTURE.

Washington, D. C.,
July 20, 1912.

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 13:

AKRON:

Winter wheat is ripening rapidly and will be ready to harvest in a few days. It seems to be well filled. Spring wheat and oats are suffering from the drought. Corn has made a fine growth during the week . Mr. T. H. Kearney, of the Office of Alkalai & Drought Resistant Plant Breeding Investigations, visited the station Monday and Tuesday.

ARDMORE:

The weather for the most part has been warm and favorable for crops and all the crops on the station with the exception of barley are in excellent condition. Barley was badly injured by the dry weather and some of it will be too short to harvest with the binder. Corn is making very rapid growth. Wheat and oats which had begun to fire on July 1st have recovered rapidly since the rains of July 3d and 4th.

BELLEFOURCHE:

The week as a whole was cool. Corn has been making an excellent growth. It is noticeable that the corn on the brome grass Rotation No. 12 is very much poorer than that on any other plat. Peas on Rotations 16 and 17 were plowed under on the 13th and the plats were double disced after plowing.

DALHART:

The past week has been very hot and dry but crops are not suffering. Some of the variety corns are beginning to tassel.

DICKINSON:

As stated in last week's report a severe hail storm visited the station on July 11 and practically destroyed all crops. Many of the farmers in the path of this storm were without any hail insurance and having suffered two years of drought already they will be practically destitute unless some help is given them to tide over until spring. It is rumored that two or three of the local merchants are going into bankruptcy as a result of the heavy credit they had given these farmers who have fared so badly. All bare ground on the station shows the effect of the packing given it by the hail storm.

EDGELEY:

Heavy storms and rains did considerable damage in this locality during the week. On Monday night 1.52 inches of rain and some hail fell accompanied by a terrific wind. A strip of country a short distance from the station was hailed out and the wind destroyed many barns and smaller buildings along the same strip. Lightning also did some damage. Most of the grain on last year's summer fallow was lodged to a great extent and some of the summer tilled and corn plats were washed badly.

GARDEN CITY:

Rotation and M.C. plats of barley and oats were harvested this week. The average height of both crops was about 24 inches. The dry weather during the past week has to some extent reduced the yield. Winter wheat was also harvested. Spring wheat will be ready to harvest in a few days. The weather has been extremely warm and rain is needed. Corn and other growing crops have been wilting more or less during the middle of the day for about a week. Temperatures for the week, maximum 101, minimum 61, precipitation .1. Mr. Cole visited the station Wednesday and took pictures of some of the plats of grain.

HETTINGER:

The corn has been making excellent growth and so far is very uniform on all of the plats. All small grain is filling as well as could be expected and the oats have started to ripen. The Hull-less barley was damaged more by the drought than any other grain, probably because of the unusually large leaf surface, but it is making good growth now and has started to fill. Winter rye on the station field was harvested Friday.

HUNTLEY:

Heavy rains and in some parts of the project hail have done considerable damage to growing crops and the first crop of alfalfa in the shocks and stacks. Very little damage was done at the farm. On the dry land oats and wheat will make only partial recoveries as they suffered severely from dry weather before the rain. Corn and flax have not yet been injured and are making excellent growth. Total precipitation for the week 2.8.

JUDITH BASIN:

On July 11th the grain crops were almost entirely destroyed by a hail storm. The spring grains are entirely gone. The winter wheats are damaged to such an extent that the results will be worthless. However the plats will be harvested that have any grain on them at all so as to obtain all the seed possible.

NORTH PLATTE:

Corn is looking fair with the exception of Plat 50-c which had to be replanted. Barley was harvested on the 10th. The berries are light but will pay to thresh. Work was begun on the oats on the 15th. Spring wheat is considerably damaged, many of the flowers being killed and these heads are absolutely void of grain. Probably from 50 to 75% in some of the plats are killed.

SCOTTSBLUFF:

The dry land grains are suffering from the continued dry weather and several of the wheat plats will yield only straw. Up to date the corn and oats are looking the best. On Wednesday the Governor and a party of about 40 visited the farm, and on Saturday Messrs. Rogers and Bosman, of South Africa, also visited.

TUCUMCARI:

The week has been very dry and warm with no precipitation for the period. The wind movement has been constantly from the west or southwest and rather high for this season of the year. All the small grain in the rotation plats and the variety test plats were harvested during the week. Most of the wheat plats were harvested with a binder, the average height of the grain being 24 to 27 inches high. The broom corn in the C.C. pla ts has been badly injured by the aphis which seems to be exceptionally bad this season. The sorghum planted in the C.C. plats on May 11 is growing quite rapidly and is about 2/3 headed out. The plants are from 4 to 4½ feet in height and show no signs of lack of moisture as yet. Milo, kafir, broom corn and corn have not suffered. much from the drought, though on some of the very warm days the leaves roll up considerably. Maximum temperature for the week 101, minimum 65.

WILLISTON:

The past week has been cool and cloudy and the grains have continued to make good growth. Hail was reported about 20 miles from the west on the night of the 10th but none fell at the station. Although all the corn is making rather slow growth the three plats on the M.C. series are exhibiting some marked differences. On July 8 Plat C (fallow) was falling behind plats A and B in growth and general appearance, and on July 14th Plat A (spring plowed) was making better growth than either of the other plats while Plats B and C remained in about the same relative condition as was observed on the 8th. Saturday night, July 13, the temperature at the station dropped to 37.5 but no frost was observed.

GRAIN INVESTIGATIONS
RECEIVED

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY,
OFFICE OF DRY LAND AGRICULTURE.

Washington, D. C.,
July 26, 1912.

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 20:

AKRON:

The past week has been favorable for the growth of crops with a maximum temperature of 90 and .72 in precipitation. The winter wheat on the rotations were harvested Friday and Saturday and a few of the varieties were harvested Saturday. Two plats of oats on the rotations were harvested Saturday and the remainder will be ready within a few days. Mr. Cole visited the station on Tuesday and Mr. Vinall on Friday.

AMARILLO:

The threshing of the rotation oats and barley was finished Wednesday the 17th. The corn, milo, kafir and weeds are looking thrifty now. Hoeing is progressing every day, but until later in the month no extra help will be available. It is expected that the Durham wheat will be threshed next week. Mr. Belz of the Physical Laboratory visited the station on the 15th.

ARDMORE:

Corn is doing exceptionally well as is also early Amber Cane. Sixty day oats are too short to handle with a binder and will be harvested with a dropper attachment to the mower next week. Wheat is doing nicely and will not be harvested for one or two weeks. Mr. Cole visited the station on the 20th.

DALHART:

The weather during the past week has been cool and cloudy. All crops have made good growth and are not as yet suffering from drought although the ground is getting hard and dry. Some of the corn is tasseling and a part of the early dwarf milo is beginning to head. Weeds are getting troublesome. Total precipitation for the week .05 in.

EDGELEY:

The weather has been decidedly cool this week for this time of the year. Maximum temperature 77, minimum 40. Crops continue to look good and present indications are that a large crop of all small grains will be harvested where the hail did no damage. Barley and some of the oats on the farm are nearly ripe.

HETTINGER:

A frost occurred last Sunday night, the 14th, which injured some of the corn very seriously and practically all of it on the plats was injured to some extent. A part of it on some plats was killed out but there are no plats where it was all killed. Evidently the high grain which bordered practically all of the corn plats on both sides had a great deal to do with the injury caused by the frost as all corn in the open was scarcely touched. Oats are filling well but ripening very unevenly on all plats. Wheat has just commenced to fill. Total precipitation for the week .53 in. maximum temperature 81, minimum 33.

BELLEFOURCHE:

All of the wheat plats and a few of the oat plats were mowed. The wheat ranged from 8 to 14 inches in height. Precipitation for the week .81 in., although as a whole the week was damp. Corn has made excellent growth and is now tasseling. The plats on fall plowing as a rule are better than those on spring plowing. Maximum temperature for the week, 89, minimum 40.

NORTH PLATTE:

All winter wheat, barley and oat plats are cut, also part of the spring wheat plats. It is expected to start threshing sometime this week.

SCOTTSBLUFF:

The winter wheat on the dry land plats was cut this week and the dry land barley harvested. Some of the oats are ripening very fast and will be ready to cut within a few days. A large percentage of the heads of the dry land spring wheat are blasted but on the whole the yield will be fairly good. During the week Mr. Vinall and Mr. Cole visited the station. Mr. Weiss of the Reclamation Service took Mr. Cole and Mr. Knorr to inspect some sandy land and make a selection for experimental purposes. Tentative arrangements have been made with a farmer 5 miles from the Experiment Farm for about 20 acres of land.

WILLISTON:

The rains and cool weather have continued with the result that all the grains are filling well and prospects for a good crop are the very best. Corn is rather late however due to the cool weather, but it is beginning to tassel. The most noticeable thing of the season is the absence of the damaging winds which usually occur in this locality. Winter wheat and some of the barley plats will be harvested this week. Predipitation for the week .28 in. Maximum temperature 79.5, minimum 37.5.